

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5-7 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

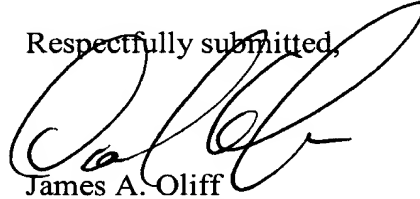
The Office Action, in paragraph 3, states that claims 8-14 are allowed. Applicant appreciates the allowance of these claims.

The Office Action, in paragraph 1, rejects claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,663,558 to Sakai in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,317,244 to Ishibe. The cancellation of claims 5-7 renders this rejection moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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